



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information, 8 days prior** to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: 10-6-16

Date of Meeting: 10-27-16

Submitted by: Lt. Brian Levesque

Department: Police

Time Required: 10 minutes

Speakers: Lt. Brian Levesque

Background Info.

Supplied:

Yes: ☒ No: ☐

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:

☐

Recognition/Resignation/
Retirement:

☐

Public Hearing:

☒

Old Business:

☐

New Business:

☐

Consent Agenda:

☐

Nonpublic:

☐

Other:

☐

TITLE OF ITEM

Approval to accept a grant from the NH Office of Highway Safety for "Distracted Driving Patrols"

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

Accept a grant from the NH Office of Highway Safety for "Merrimack Distracted Driving Patrols" in the amount of \$13,000 for distracted driving patrols

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:

31:95-b

Warrant Article:

Charter Article:

8-15

Town Meeting:

Other:

N/A

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:

☐

Grant Requirements:

☐

Easel:

☐

Joint Meeting:

☐

Special Seating:

☐

Other:

☐

Laptop:

☐

None:

☐

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:

Brian Levesque

Address

Police

Phone Number

603.420.1854

Email Address

blevesque@merrimacknh.gov

APPROVAL

Town Manager:

Yes ☒

No: ☐

Chair/Vice Chair:

Yes ☒

No: ☐

Hold for Meeting Date: _____



LEGAL NOTICE
Town of Merrimack
Public Hearing

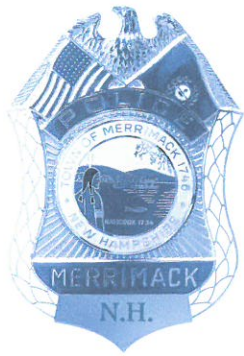


Residents of Merrimack are hereby advised that the Town Council will hold a public hearing to consider the acceptance and expenditure of a grant in the amount of \$13,000 for the Merrimack Police Department made available through the NH Department of Safety / Office of Highway Safety Agency for "Merrimack Distracted Driving Patrols" to deter distracted and negligent driving, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15. All interested parties are invited to attend. The public hearing will be held on **Thursday, October 27, 2016, at 7:00 PM** in the Matthew Thornton Room located at 8 Baboosic Lake Road in Merrimack.

For Town of Merrimack Use:

Posted: October 19, 2016

To Be Published: October 19, 2016 (*Union Leader*)



MERRIMACK POLICE DEPARTMENT

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www.merrimackpd.org

Mark E. Doyle
Chief of Police

MEMO

DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2016
TO: MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
CC: TOWN MANAGER CABANEL
CHIEF MARK DOYLE
FROM: LT.BRIAN LEVESQUE
RE: AGENDA REQUESTS

The three agenda requests before the Town Council are seeking acceptance of the NH Office of Highway Safety Grants for "Merrimack DWI Patrols", "Merrimack STEP Patrols", and "Merrimack Distracted Driving Patrols".

The Merrimack DWI Patrols grant is for the amount of \$7,182.00 and would fund 20 six hour patrols between the hours of 9 p.m. and 3 a.m.. These patrols would focus on detecting DWIs and would predominately be held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. We may schedule patrols around special events such as the Super Bowl and St. Patrick's Day, which are known events that are focused around alcohol. This past year we conducted 13 patrols which resulted in 9 arrests (4 for DWI, 2 for illegal possession of alcohol, 1 for possession of drugs, and 2 for other warrants). Officers stopped 100 vehicles during the patrols and issued 100 warnings for various offenses and 5 summonses (4.7% of all paperwork issued).

The Merrimack Sustained Traffic Enforcement Patrols (STEP) grant is for the amount of \$18,194.40. This would fund 58 four hour patrols between the hours of 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. We would also participate in 12 other patrols for four hours during the National Highway Safety "Operation Safe Commute" campaign and 6 patrols during the "Join the NH Clique" campaign. The STEP patrols would be utilized to focus on known trouble areas during the commuting hours, with the ultimate goal of reducing accidents and making our roadways safer for our residents and commuting public. These patrols could be used to focus on traffic controls devices that are not being followed, speeding in various areas, and/or school bus complaints, etc. This past year a total 514 vehicles were stopped during the patrol which resulted in 400 warnings being issued and 116 summonses (22.4% of all paperwork issued). Of the summonses that were issued 52 (44.8% of summonses issued) were for Use of a Handheld Electronic Device, which is a known cause to several accidents and/or motor vehicle complaints.

I reviewed the number of accidents that were reported to us in 2015 and the same time period in 2016 and determined that we experienced approximately a 12% decrease in accidents.

The Merrimack Distracted Driving Patrols grant is for the amount of \$13,000. This grant would fund 54 four hour patrols between the hours of 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. This grant would focus on patrols to deter distracted and negligent driving which may be caused from using a handheld electronic device, other distractions in the car, failing to clear snow from vehicle, etc. This is the first year that we have been selected for this grant so I would refer to the data for last year's STEP grant. All three grants require 25% In Kind Match or Soft Match from the Police Department.